



michoud messenger

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New Construction at MAF

Construction has begun on the new vertical assembly and weld high bay facility at the Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF). This production facility is to be 160-foot –tall and is scheduled to be completed by Oct 2010.

The contract, valued at \$22 million, was awarded to Broadmoor of Metairie, La. and is the first major construction subcontract effort to be let under the new manufacturing support and facility operations contract (MSFOC) since Jacobs Technology officially assumed operational control of MAF on July 1, 2009.

In addition, Broadmoor will make nearly \$2 million worth of modifications

to support new manufacturing robotic weld tools one, two, and three plus the machining center. Modifications are scheduled to be completed next May. Be safe around the site and thanks for your cooperation during the construction phase.

These construction projects support facility preparations for the assembly of the Upper Stage of the Ares 1 launch vehicle, which is planned to send astronauts into low earth orbit and to the International Space Station, the moon and beyond.

Construction is underway at MAF where Broadmoor will begin building the production facility for Ares 1 Upper Stage final assembly operations.

STS-128 Astronaut Visits MAF



Mission Specialist Patrick Forrester presents an STS-128 mission plaque to Mike McBain external tank deputy project manager. This was Forrester's 3rd trip to space and he has logged over 950 hours in space.

Astronaut **Pat Forrester** visited the Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) Oct. 8th to meet with MAF employees and talk about his mission to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of STS-128.

Commander **Rick Sturckow** led the STS-128 mission to the ISS aboard space shuttle *Discovery* with Kevin Ford serving as pilot. Also serving aboard *Discovery* with Forrester were mission specialists **José Hernández, John "Danny" Olivas, Christer Fuglesang, Nicole Stott** and **Timothy Kopra**.

Forrester told a crowd of about 300 workers that Stott remained on the station as an Expedition 20 flight engineer replacing Timothy Kopra. Kopra returned home aboard *Discovery* as a mission specialist.

Forrester played a mission video for the crowd that showed *Discovery* delivering the Leonardo Multi-Purpose Logistics Module containing life support racks and science racks. It was *Discovery*'s 37th mission to space and the 30th mission of a space shuttle dedicated to the assembly and maintenance of the International Space Station.

Senator Vitter Visits to Discuss MAF's Future

U.S. Senator **David Vitter** held a public forum at Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) Oct. 5 to discuss **Norm Augustine**'s review of the Human Spaceflight Program. About 200 people heard Vitter and a panel of three discuss options for the future of the space program.

"America's space program is now at a critical and historic crossroads, and with the Space Shuttle scheduled for retirement, a decision on the future of our space program will be made soon," said Vitter. He said whatever option or combination of options is selected from the so called "Augustine Report" will have far-reaching implications for the two NASA facilities in the region, Michoud and Stennis.

Bo Bejmuk, a member of the Presidential panel reviewing options for the future of human space flight, Louisiana Economic Development's **Bob Fudickar**, and Chairman of the Stennis-Michoud Aerospace Alliance **Bobby Savoie** all spoke on the importance of Michoud and the jobs that MAF has created here for decades.

A full report can be reviewed at http://www.nasa.gov/pdf/396093main_HSF_Cmte_FinalReport.pdf



Senator David Vitter (far right) answers questions while panel members Bo Bejmuk, Bob Fudickar, and Bobby Savoie look on.

AS9100 is on the way

AS9100 is the international business system standard for the aerospace industry and incorporates all the requirements of the International Standards Organization (ISO) 9000 quality management system standard. AS9100 meets the needs of aerospace manufacturers worldwide and ensures safety, reliability, and quality.

AS9100 has proven over the years that it leads companies to better operations, improved performance and profitability. Jacobs plans to be certified to AS9100 standards by the end of next summer.

For additional information please contact **Dr. Joe Costa**, Mission Assurance Officer at (504) 257-6217 or at joseph.costa@nasa.gov.

MAF Safety Notices

Pedestrian Safety and Crosswalks

There has been an increase in reports of vehicle operators not yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks.

Some operators have been identified through their license plate numbers, and the use of security cameras resulting in violators losing MAF driving privileges and receiving disciplinary action. The better solution would be that drivers obey the traffic regulations and not endanger others.

Pedestrians should always cross roadways by using marked crosswalks where available.

Remember: Drivers must stop when a pedestrian enters a crosswalk, and remain stopped until the pedestrian finishes crossing all lanes and is out of the marked crosswalk.



Texting and Driving Now Prohibited

With nearly 3 million civilian employees, the federal government has issued a ban on text messaging while driving. Recent deadly crashes involving drivers distracted by text messaging while behind the wheel highlight a growing danger on our roads. Text messaging causes drivers to take their eyes off the road and at least one hand off the steering wheel, endangering both themselves and others.

Every day, federal employees drive government-owned, government-leased, or government-rented vehicles (collectively, GOV) or privately-owned vehicles (POV) on official government business, and some Federal employees use government-supplied electronic devices to text or e-mail while driving.

A federal government-wide prohibition on the use of text messaging while driving on official business or while using government-supplied equipment will help save lives, reduce injuries, and set an example for state and local governments, private employers, and individual drivers.

Extending this policy to cover federal contractors is designed to promote economy and efficiency in federal procurement.

Letters from Leadership

I want to express my appreciation to everyone at the Michoud Assembly Facility for supporting NASA's transition over the past several months while incorporating the Manufacturing Support and Facilities Operations Contract (MSFOC) into the MAF environment. It is evident that every entity at MAF has taken a positive role in accomplishing this major milestone in transitioning MAF to a multi-program site. I believe this transition is a great opportunity to change MAF and ensure the viability of our site for the future.

Change is inevitable and can be constant. There are positive and negative changes that occur in our lives and our ability to cope with change is the key to our success. I remember the changes brought about by Hurricane Katrina and this community's overwhelming response to those changes. We never missed a milestone with ET Production nor slipped any shuttle flight manifest. Change is happening again. NASA is moving to new vehicles, and MAF is becoming a multi-tenant user. These changes also will cause our site to continue to strive for success.

It is our sincere desire to make MAF a better workplace for everyone, to be tenant friendly and to be open to new customers. Our new MSFOC contractor, Jacobs Technology, is up and running with new ideas, new business initiatives, and a site-wide form of communication. I encourage everyone to use Jacob's "Ideas for MAF Program" to submit your own ideas for improvements. With help from everyone, we can improve the way we operate, and make our site a better place to work and a more inviting place for new work that is coming in the future.

Over the past forty years under NASA's ownership and operation of this site, many of us have made our careers. We want to leave a legacy for future generations to enjoy. No matter the direction, NASA will proceed with space exploration and the Michoud Assembly Facility can be proud to be a part of that exploration. As stated in several other Letters from Leadership, MAF has a bright future and it takes everyone at this site working together as a team to make it happen. Much like the recent football game between New Orleans and New York, the Saints pulled off an amazing victory! It was accomplished because everyone pulled together unselfishly to make it happen. Let's make this our legacy as well!

— Malcolm Wood, MAF Deputy COO



ET-134 rollout

The morning sun blazes behind ET-134 as it crosses the Michoud levee on it's way to the barge. ET-134 is set to fly on the STS-130 mission which delivers the Tranquility module to the ISS in February 2010. To read more go to: http://blogs.nasa.gov/cm/blog/sailing_with_nasa/



Hahnville High Visits MAF



Hahnville High School students interested in aerospace engineering visited MAF Oct. 22 to tour the facility and meet with MAF engineers. Tours are available and open to the public. Email john.filostrat@nasa.gov for more information.

Getting Ready for Flu Season



Michoud Clinic employees prepare for the flu season by receiving a vaccination. Here, Rachel Perdamo-Washington administers the shot to fellow employee Denise Younger.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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